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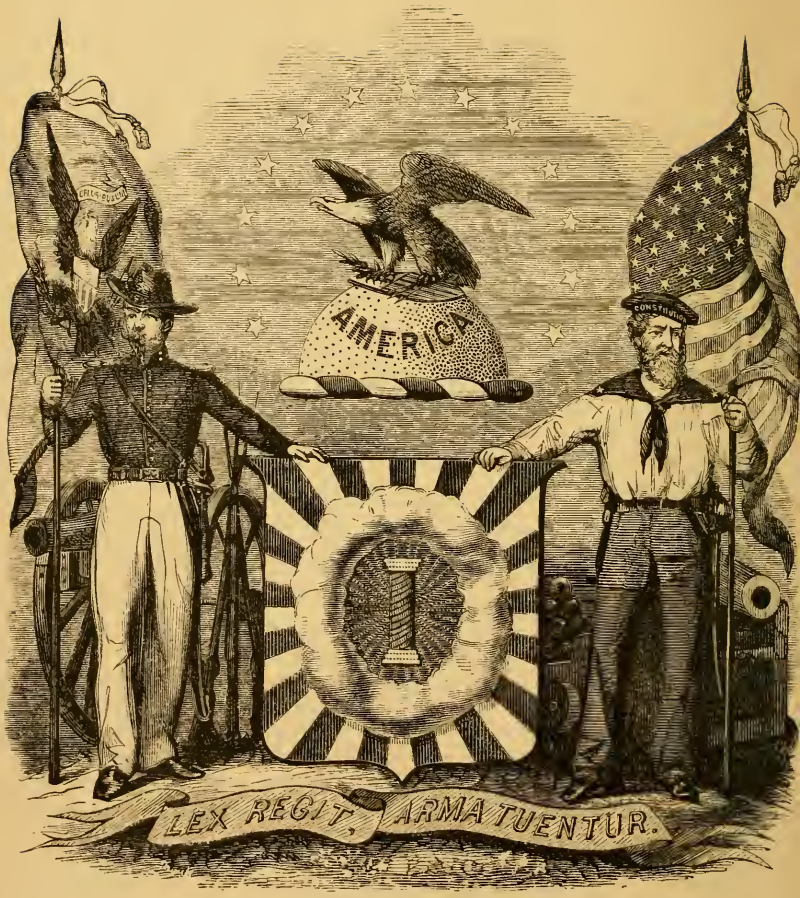
AMERICA
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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

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# MILITARY ORDER

OF THE

# LOYAL LEGION

OF THE

# UNITED STATES.

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*Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year* 1865,
*for the*
MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES,
By Sam. B. Wylie Mitchell, M.D., Acting Recorder-in-Chief of said Order,
*In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.*

Head-Quarters, Commandery No. 1,

OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

M. O., L. L., U. S.

Philadelphia, January 17, 1866.

ORDERED:—That the Constitution and By-Laws of the "MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES," be published for the use of the Companions of the Order.

(*Extract from the Minutes.*)

Major General GEORGE CADWALADER,
Commander.

Attest:—

SAM. B. WYLIE MITCHELL,
Bvt. Lieut. Colonel, U. S. V.
Recorder.

---

Instituted April 15, 1865.

# CONSTITUTION.

## PREAMBLE.

We, Officers and Honorably Discharged Officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps of the United States, whose names are hereunto annexed,—having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the National Government, at a critical period of its history,—and holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made, and the triumphs together shared in the support of this sacred duty,—do unite in order to ordain and establish a permanent Association for the purposes and objects hereinafter set forth. And to this

end, pledge our honor, as officers and gentlemen, to be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

## ARTICLE I.

### TITLE.

This Institution shall be known by the name, style and title of "THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES."

## ARTICLE II.

### PRINCIPLES.

This Order acknowledges as its fundamental principles—

1st. A firm belief and trust in Almighty God; extolling Him under whose beneficent guidance the sovereignty and integrity of the Union have been maintained,—the honor of the Flag vindicated, —and the blessings of Civil Liberty secured, established and enlarged.

2nd. True allegiance to the United States of America; based upon a paramount respect for, and fidelity to, the National Constitution and Laws; manifested by the discountenancing of whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions.

## ARTICLE III.

### OBJECTS.

The Objects of this Order shall be to cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defence of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic; to strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy formed from companionship-in-arms; to advance the best interests of the soldiers and sailors of the United States, especially of those associated as members of this Order, and to extend all possible relief to their widows and children; to

foster the cultivation of Military and Naval Science, to enforce unqualified allegiance to the General Government; to protect the rights and liberties of American citizenship, and to maintain National Honor, Union and Independence.

## ARTICLE IV.

### ORGANIZATION.

The several constituted bodies of this Order shall be designated as *Commanderies*, and shall consist of—

1st. *District* Commanderies, to be known as "Commandery No.— (in the order of institution), of the State of ————."

2nd. *State* Commanderies, to be known as "Grand Commandery of the State of——."

3rd. A *National* Commandery, to be known as "Commandery-in-Chief."

## ARTICLE V.

### MEMBERS.

The Members, or *Companions* of this Order shall be of three (3) Classes:—

1st. Commissioned officers of the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps, who have been actually engaged in the suppression of the Rebellion; and also commissioned officers now or hereafter in the Military or Naval Service of the United States.

2nd. The eldest male lineal descendants of the above; and in default of such issue, then of their collateral branches in the order of genealogical succession.

3rd. Gentlemen in civil life, who have been specially distinguished for conspicuous and consistent loyalty to the National Government, and who have been active and eminent in maintaining the supremacy of the same.

## ARTICLE VI.

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—Every application for membership shall be made in writing: it must be presented at a stated meeting of the Commandery; and be recommended by three (3) Companions of the Order, who shall vouch for the applicant's eligibility. The application shall be referred by the Commander to a Committee of Investigation consisting of three (3) Companions of the Order, none of whom shall be of the recommending Companions. If the applicant be a candidate for the First (1st) Class, the Committee shall ascertain the date of his appointment or muster into the United States service as a commissioned officer; and if discharged, the date of the same and reasons therefor. In all cases, they shall make a careful examination of his standing and moral character; and report in writing at the

next stated meeting of the Commandery. After the reading of the report, the Commander shall formally request any Companion of the Order who has any objection to the report, or reasons against the election of the candidate, to then state the same. Upon the adoption of the report, the candidate may be balloted for; and every Companion of the Order present, shall, unless excused by a vote of the Commandery, deposit one (1) ballot, for or against the candidate. If not more than two (2) black balls be deposited against him, he shall be declared duly elected: but if three (3) or more black balls be deposited against him, he shall be rejected and so declared.

Sec. 2.—An application for membership may be withdrawn before report thereon;—or after report and before ballot, if the report be favorable.

Sec. 3.—A Companion-elect, of the First (1st) or Second (2nd) Class, before being admitted to the privileges of membership, shall subscribe to

the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order; pay an admission fee of, at least, twenty-five dollars ($25.00), which shall entitle him to a Badge, Ribbon, and Diploma; be presented at one of the meetings of the Commandery, and there make the requisite declaration. But if he shall neglect, or refuse, to comply with these conditions for the period of six (6) months, unless prevented by sickness or other unavoidable occurrence, his election may be declared null and void.

Sec. 4.—If a candidate for membership be rejected, he shall be forever after ineligible for proposal in any other Commandery of the Order;—and not in this in which he was rejected, until a period of three (3) years shall have elapsed from the date of his rejection. After which, in the event of the rejected candidate applying for membership, he shall comply in all particulars with the forms hereinbefore prescribed; and to be elected, must, when balloted for, be unanimously approved.

SEC. 5.—When the fact of the ineligibility of any person,—not a candidate,—for a Companion of the Order shall be certified to, before the Council of any Commandery, it shall be duly and properly recorded; and a copy of such record shall be forwarded, through the proper channel, for the information and guidance of the several Commanderies.

## ARTICLE VII.

### MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1.—Membership in this Order being based upon the principle—"Once a member, always a member," a resignation of membership is, therefore, not admissible. But, in lieu thereof, the right of any member to withdraw from the Commandery, for any period of time, on application made as hereinafter directed, shall be given at any stated meeting; a majority concurring in the same: this,

with the understanding that, during such time, the Companion withdrawing shall not enjoy the rights and privileges of other members.

Sec. 2.—All applications for permission to withdraw from the Commandery, shall be made in writing and accompanied with a certificate from the Recorder that all the dues to the Order have been satisfied. But no member shall be permitted to withdraw while charges are pending against him.

Sec. 3.—Membership shall be forfeited only for a violation of any of the obligations taken on entering the Order, or for other conduct unbecoming a gentleman and inconsistent with that of a man of honor. In such cases the Badge, Ribbon, and Diploma, and all other property belonging to the individual as connected with this Order, shall be disposed of by the Commandery in such manner as a majority present shall order.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### IMPEACHMENT OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—If the conduct or character of any Companion of this Order shall be impeached, the accusing member shall prefer his charge in writing to the Council, who shall notify the accused of the same; and if, after a due investigation, the Council consider the charge to be sustained, they shall report the case, with their decision, to the Commandery; notifying the accused of the time when the report is to be made. If the accused member shall fail to come forward and exculpate himself, he may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members of the Commandery present.

But no vote for the reprimand, suspension, or expulsion of a Companion shall be taken except at a stated meeting.

SEC. 2.—A member who has been expelled, may

only be reinstated by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commandery present at the next stated meeting after he shall petition in writing therefor.

## ARTICLE IX.

### HONORARY MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—Companions of the Third (3rd) Class in any Commandery shall not exceed in number the ratio of one to eight (1:8) to those of the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Classes.

SEC. 2.—The Companions of the Third (3rd) Class, shall not be liable for fees or dues. In consequence of which remission they shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting, or be eligible to any office of the Order:—*unless*, they elect to accept the financial obligations of Companions of the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Classes.

## ARTICLE X.

### DIPLOMA OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1.—Every Diploma of Membership shall be signed by the Commander-in-Chief, and shall have the seal of the Order affixed thereto, and be attested by the Recorder-in-Chief.

SEC. 2.—The FORM OF THE DIPLOMA shall be as follows:—

*In the Name and by the Authority of*

(*COAT OF ARMS.*)

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,

*To all to whom these Presents shall come,*

GREETING:

KNOW YE, That _____

_____,

Having been specially distinguished for faithful services in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the Government of the United States of America:—was received as a COMPANION OF THE ——— CLASS OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES, on the —— day of ———, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and ———, through Commandery No. —, of the State of ———.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the names of the proper Officers, and the Seal of the Order, are hereunto affixed.

GIVEN at Philadelphia, this —— day of ———, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ———, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ———, and of the Order the ———.

———,

*Commander-in-Chief.*

Attest:—

———,

*Recorder-in-Chief.*

*No.*

## ARTICLE XI.

### DEATH OF MEMBERS.

Upon notice of the death of any Companion of the Order, the Commandery will be convened for the purpose of attending the funeral ceremonies.

The Companions, properly uniformed and wearing the usual badge of mourning, will march in the order prescribed for such processions.

If agreeable to the family of the deceased, the coffin will be draped with the United States flag, and the pall supported by eight (8) Companions of the Order.

## ARTICLE XII.

### OFFICERS.

SECTION 1.—The Officers of the *District* Commanderies shall be a Commander, a Senior Vice-Commander, a Junior Vice-Commander, a Recorder,

a Correspondant, a Treasurer, a Chancellor, a Chaplain, and a Council consisting of five (5) Companions,—of which Board the other Officers shall be members *ex-officio.*

They shall be elected annually, as hereinafter directed.

Sec. 2.—The Officers of the *State* Commanderies shall be a Grand Commander, a Senior Vice Grand Commander, a Junior Vice Grand Commander, a Grand Recorder, a Grand Correspondant, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Chancellor, a Grand Chaplain, and a Grand Council, consisting of five (5) Grand Companions,—of which Board the other Officers shall be members *ex-officio.*

They shall be elected biennially.

Sec. 3.—The Officers of the *National* Commandery shall be a Commander-in-Chief, a Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, a Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, a Recorder-in-Chief, a Correspondant-in-Chief, a Treasurer-in-Chief, a Chancellor-

in-Chief, a Chaplain-in-Chief, and a Council-in-Chief, consisting of five (5) Companions-in-Chief, —of which Board the other Officers shall be members *ex-officio.*

They shall hold office during the term of four (4) years.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1.—It shall be the duty of the COMMANDER to preside at all meetings of the Commandery, and of the Council; to enforce a strict observance of the Constitution and By-Laws; to appoint all Officers and Committees not otherwise provided for; to sign all orders drawn upon the Treasurer for all sums necessary to defray the expenses, and for other appropriations made and passed at a stated meeting of the Commandery; and perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage, or his charge, may require of him.

At the close of his term of office he shall make a written report of the general state of the Order: which report shall be placed in the archives of the Commandery.

SEC. 2.—The VICE-COMMANDERS shall, when called upon, assist the Commander in the performance of his duties. The SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER is, in the event of the death, resignation or absence of the Commander, his plenary representative. And in the event of the death, resignation or absence of the Senior Vice-Commander, the JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER succeeds to all his powers and duties.

If none of the above named Officers be present, a Commander *pro tempore* shall be appointed.

SEC. 3.—It shall be the duty of the RECORDER to keep in books provided for that purpose,—

1st. The *Constitution*, *By-Laws*, *Rules and Regulations* of the Order,—to be signed by every Companion on his becoming a member thereof.

2nd. A *Register* of the members of the Com-

mandery, ruled to embrace every material fact relating to or growing out of their membership.

3rd. A *Journal* of the proceedings of the Commandery, after the same have been corrected and approved.

4th. A *Report-Book*, containing an analysis of the reports of Commanderies, Officers and Committees.

5th. A *Letter-Book*, of copies of all official letters sent and received.

6th. A *Ledger*, to contain the accounts of the Commandery with its members.

7th. A *Receipt-Book*, in which to take the Treasurer's receipts.

8th. A *Black-Book*, in which shall be recorded the names and rank in the service of all who, at any time, may be declared ineligible for membership in the Order; and also of those members who may have been expelled from any Commandery, together with the reason therefor.

It shall be his duty to keep these books in readiness, at all times, for inspection by the Council; to keep all accounts between the Commandery and its members; receive in trust all moneys of the Commandery, and pay the same without delay to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. He shall attest all orders drawn upon the Treasurer for money ordered to be paid at a stated meeting, and none others, except those hereinafter specially provided for. He shall give due notice of all meetings of the Commandery; and he shall furnish in the said notice the name, rank and command in the service, and address of each candidate for membership, together with his or their Recommenders, and the Committees of Investigation: and in the notices for the first stated meetings in May and November, he shall state the amount due by the Companion for whom issued. He shall at the last stated meeting in his term of office, make out for the Commandery a full report of all moneys received during his term,

and also the arrearages of every member; and transfer to his successor in office, within two (2) weeks from the expiration of his term, all books, papers, or other property in his possession belonging to his office. He shall perform such other duties as the Commandery, or his office, may require of him.

SEC. 4.—The CORRESPONDANT shall conduct the correspondence of the Commandery; and will notify the National Commandery, each State and District Commandery, from time to time as they may occur, of every admission and rejection, suspension and expulsion, withdrawal, restoration and death.

In the absence of the Recorder, he shall officiate in his stead.

SEC. 5.—The TREASURER shall receive from the Recorder all moneys belonging to the Commandery; giving receipts for the same. He shall pay all orders signed by the Commander and attested by the

Recorder, and none others; and must retain, in a book provided for the purpose, these orders as his vouchers. He shall keep fair and regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures; making a quarterly statement thereof. He shall perform such other duties as the Commandery, or his office, may require of him. He shall pay over and deliver to his successor in office, on the night of investiture of said successor, all moneys, vouchers, books and papers belonging to the Commandery, in his hands at the close of his term of office. And for the faithful performance of his duty shall give such security as the Commandery may direct.

Sec. 6.—The Chancellor shall have the care and arrangement of the archives. To his especial custody shall also be confided the Seal of the Order, together with the Badges, Dies, Ribbon, and Diploma-plate. He shall keep a roster of all the Companions of the Order, each numbered according to date of admission and Commandery. He shall per-

form such other duties as the Order, or his charge, may require of him.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the CHAPLAIN to open and close the meetings of the Commandery in the manner prescribed; and to perform such other duties as general custom may require of him.

SEC. 8.—The COUNCIL shall exercise a general inspection and control over all property belonging to the Commandery. They shall be constituted a standing Committee on Accounts: and shall audit and adjust the Commandery's books semi-annually, or oftener if required to do so; rendering reports of the same. They shall be authorized to grant warrants for all incidental expenses that may accrue. In dissensions between Companions, it shall be their duty to act as a Court of Honor for the just and amicable settlement of the same: but where charges are preferred against a Companion, they shall be constituted a Court of Inquiry for the Commandery. They shall have power to fill vacancies in any of

the offices of the Commandery, until the time of the next annual election.

They shall be empowered to appoint for Commandery Head-Quarters an *Orderly*;—who must be an honorably discharged soldier or sailor.

## ARTICLE XIV.

### REMOVAL OF OFFICERS.

Any Officer of the Order who shall neglect, or improperly perform, the duties incumbent upon him, may be removed by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members of the Commandery present.

## ARTICLE XV.

### MEETINGS.

SECTION 1.—The stated meetings of the Order shall be held, at least, monthly.

SEC. 2.—Special meetings may be convened by order of the Commander; or by order of one of the

Vice-Commanders, at the written request of four (4) members of the Commandery:—three (3) days' previous notice being given in every case.

SEC. 3.—Eight (8) members of the Commandery shall constitute a quorum at any meeting where business is to be transacted.

## ARTICLE XVI.

### SECRECY.

SECTION 1.—The proceedings of the Order shall, as a general rule, be kept secret.

SEC. 2.—Any member who shall disclose the name of a Companion who has been instrumental in causing the rejection of any candidate for membership, or give information that may lead to such disclosure, shall be expelled from the Order. And the Commander shall cause the provisions of this law to be read immediately after the rejection of such application.

## ARTICLE XVII.

### FUNDS.

SECTION 1.—Funds for defraying the current expenses of the Order, and for the relief of the unfortunate, shall be raised by a semi-annual assessment of, at least, five dollars ($5.00) upon each Companion; which shall be paid in advance. But any Companion of the Order who shall pay, at one time, one hundred dollars ($100.00) over and above his admission fee, shall be exempt from the payment of all further dues.

SEC. 2.—All sums paid for the commutation of semi-annual assessments, shall be transferred immediately to the Council for investment in United States or other approved securities.

## ARTICLE XVIII.

### ARREARAGES.

SECTION 1.—Any Companion who may be one (1) year in arrears at the time of holding the annual

election for Officers, may, by a vote of a majority of the members of the Commandery present, be prohibited from voting, and be declared to be ineligible to any office until such dues shall be paid, or remitted by an order of the same.

SEC. 2.—Any Companion who is two (2) years, or more, in arrears at the first stated meeting in June, shall be specially notified of the fact; and if the same is not paid within three (3) months thereafter, the Commandery may, by a vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members present, suspend the Companion until such arrearages shall be paid, or duly remitted.

SEC. 3.—If the Companion shall refuse to pay such arrears, he may be dropped from the roll by order of a majority of the members of the Commandery present; unless it shall appear that the delinquency has occurred through unavoidable disability,—in which case the Commandery may remit the whole, or any portion thereof.

## ARTICLE XIX.

### RELIEF.

SECTION. 1.—Every Companion who has been a member of this Order for one (1) year and has conformed to its laws, shall, in case of misfortune and distress, he entitled to such relief as may be deemed expedient.

SEC. 2.—The widow and children of a deceased Companion shall be entitled to such relief as the Companion, if living, would have enjoyed.

## ARTICLE XX.

### RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the installation of the Officers elect,—the Council shall, by and with the approval of the Commandery, appoint eight (8) Companions, who shall constitute a *Relief Committee* for the ensuing year.

All applications for relief shall be referred to such Committee.

The Committee shall be empowered to order temporary assistance in cases only which will admit of no delay; and shall immediately report the fact to the Council. The expenses for such assistance shall be paid by an order on the Treasurer, approved by the Council. But the said Committee shall draw no other orders upon the Treasurer, except by a Resolution of the Commandery.

## ARTICLE XXI.

### DISTRICT COMMANDERIES.

SECTION 1.—To further its designs, this Order shall,—so far as is consistent with its principles and objects,—institute Commanderies in all the States of the Union.

District Commanderies shall be organized as the result of an application signed by, at least, thirteen (13) officers, or ex-officers, of the Army or

Navy,—Companions of the Order, or eligible to membership in the same,—made to the Grand Commandery of its State; or if such body be not already established, then to the Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania; and granted at a stated meeting by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the same. The Charter of which shall be at once issued.

SEC. 2.—The FORM OF CHARTER shall be as follows:—

*In the Name and by the Authority of*

(*COAT OF ARMS.*)

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF,

*To all and singular to whom these Presents shall come,*

GREETING:

KNOW YE, That our worthy Companions, ———

———, ——— ———, ——— ———, ———

———, ——— ———, ——— ———, ———

———, ——— ———, ——— ———, ———
———, ——— ———, ——— ———, ———
———, are hereby authorized and empowered to institute, organize and establish a Commandery in ————, to be known as COMMANDERY No. —, OF THE STATE OF ————, OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

WITNESS the name of the Commander-in-Chief, and the Seal of the Order, attested by the Recorder-in-Chief, at Philadelphia, this —— day of ———, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ———, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ———, and of the Order the ———.

———,
*Commander-in-Chief.*

Attest:—

———,
*Recorder-in-Chief.*

*No.—.*

Sec. 3.—The first annual, and all subsequent, nomination of Officers shall be made at the first stated meeting in April; and said nominations shall be closed when the meeting adjourns. From the Companions then nominated, the officers shall be elected on the first stated meeting in May proximo. They shall be chosen by ballot, by a majority of all the valid votes given; and should no candidate receive a majority of all the votes polled on the first ballot, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and so on at each successive ballot. The Companions so elected shall enter upon office at the next stated meeting after their election, and shall hold the same until their successors respectively shall be duly elected and invested.

Sec. 4.—Each Commandery shall have power to adopt whatever Rules and Regulations may be deemed necessary for its own special government:—*Provided*, that the same do not in any way conflict

with or impair any part or portion of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order.

Sec. 5.—Each Commandery shall make a full report of its condition, accompanied with a general history of its proceedings, to the Grand Commandery of its State, at least, semi-annually, in May and November.

## ARTICLE XXII.

### GRAND COMMANDERIES.

Section 1.—The members of a Grand Commandery shall consist of the ex-Commanders and Commanders of the several District Commanderies of the State; and also of such other distinguished Companions of the Order as may be specially recommended by any District Commandery within its jurisdiction, in number not exceeding four (4) for each year, and elected by the Grand Commandery with the full rights, honors and privileges of other members of that body.

Sec. 2.—The duties of the Officers of Grand Commanderies shall be as prescribed in Article XIII, of the Constitution,—for District Commanderies.

Sec. 3.—In every Grand Commandery there shall be eight (8) Departments, each consisting of thirteen (13) members, appointed by the Grand Council, by and with the advice of the Grand Commandery; and shall be as follows:—

Of the Judiciary, of Ways and Means, of Trusts, of Members, of Commanderies, of Archives, of the United Service, and of Miscellaneous Affairs. And from the decision of each, there shall be an appeal to the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 4.—To the Department of the *Judiciary* shall be referred, for written report, all questions of interpretation of the Constitution and By-Laws. It shall act as a Court of Appeals in all difficulties in or between the several Commanderies of its State,

or between its Commanderies and Companions of the Order.

SEC. 5.—The Department of *Ways and Means* shall attend to all matters connected with the finances of the Commanderies within its jurisdiction; except those already provided for, or hereinafter delegated to the Department of Trusts.

SEC. 6.—The Department of *Trusts* shall take charge of all moneys belonging to the permanent fund of its jurisdictional district, and shall have power to invest the same in the name of the Grand Commandery.

SEC. 7.—The Department of *Members* shall procure and keep a correct list of all the Companions of the Order, their rank and command in the service, their residences, and whatever record may be of interest connected with them.

SEC. 8.—To the Department of *Commanderies* shall be referred, for examination and report, all applications for the granting of Charters to new

Commanderies within the limits of its State jurisdiction.

SEC. 9.—The Department of *Archives* shall collect and keep all books and papers in any way connected with the history of the Order; or with that of the Army and Navy, especially during the period of the war for the maintenance of the National Union.

SEC. 10.—The Department of the *United Service* shall collect for the Order such books, models and plans, and other matters relating to Military and Naval Science and Art, as may be of particular interest to the Companions.

SEC. 11.—The Department of *Miscellaneous Affairs* shall have charge of all matters not hereinbefore specially provided for.

SEC. 12.—The Head-Quarters of each Grand Commandery shall be in the principal City of its State; at which place it shall assemble, at least annually.

The Grand Council and Departments shall meet, at least, semi-annually, in the same place. Members of the latter two bodies, unable to be present, may be represented by letter.

Sec. 13.—Each Grand Commandery shall make a full report of its condition, accompanied with a general history of its proceedings, to the Commandery-in-Chief, at least, annually, in May.

## ARTICLE XXIII.

### COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF.

Section 1.—The Commandery-in-Chief shall consist of the ex-Grand Commanders and Grand Commanders of the several Grand Commanderies and also of such other distinguished Companions of the Order as the Commandery-in-Chief may elect.

Sec. 2.—The duties of the Officers of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be as prescribed in Article XIII, of the Constitution,—for District Commanderies.

Sec. 3.—All legislative power, except the proviso contained in this Section, and that elsewhere reserved to the subordinate Commanderies, shall be invested in the Congress of the Order:—chief executive and supreme judicial power in the Commandery-in-Chief:—

*Provided*, That when a contingency shall arise, which shall in all honor and fair dealing seem to the Commandery-in-Chief to demand instant and imperative action, it may, with the approval of a majority of the several Grand Commanderies, adopt measures to meet the contingency, which shall be binding until the next meeting of the Congress.

Sec. 4.—The Commandery-in-Chief shall, in the name and by the authority of the Order, issue all Diplomas of Membership; and Charters for the institution of new Commanderies.

Sec. 5.—In order that the several Commanderies shall be brought into as direct communication as possible, it shall be the duty of the Commandery-in-

Chief to have notified each Commandery,—through the several Grand Commanderies,—of any new organization which may have been effected; who, on the receipt of such official information, shall communicate, with the least possible delay, with the new Commandery, tendering congratulations on its entrance into the Order.

Sec. 6.—The Head-Quarters of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order shall be in the City of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania: at which place it shall assemble, at least, once in every two (2) years. The Council-in-Chief shall meet, at least, annually: its members may be represented by letter.

## ARTICLE XXIV.

### CONGRESS OF THE ORDER.

Section 1.—A Congress of the Order, to be composed of three (3) Representatives from each Commandery,—District, State, and National,—

shall assemble, at least, once in four (4) years, on the 4th day of July, in the City of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania; and shall act on whatever business may be laid before it.

Sec. 2.—Commanderies unable to be represented by their own special delegation, shall be required to select as substitutes a full delegation from another, or other Commanderies, of Companions not delegated from their own Commandery; who shall, in all matters appertaining to the Congress, enjoy the rights and privileges of other Representatives.

Sec. 3.—There shall be an Oration, or an Oration and Poem, delivered before the Order,—in the City of Philadelphia, during the session of the Congress,—by a Companion, or Companions; who shall be elected for the purpose by a majority of the whole number of Commanderies represented in the preceding Congress.

## ARTICLE XXV.

### COAT OF ARMS OF THE ORDER.

The Coat of Arms of the Order shall be:—

*Arms.*—Gyronnée, (symbolical of unity,) of thirty-four gules and argent, (representing the number of States forming the National Government at the commencement of the Rebellion,) a twisted pillar irradiated in pale or, environed by an orl of clouds proper. (*v.* Exodus xiii. 21-22.)

*Crest:*—Upon a wreath argent and gules,—a hemisphere or, charged with the legend AMERICA in letters azure; thereon the National Eagle in the position of defence proper; all within thirteen mullets arch-wise of the first, on a field of the fourth.

*Supporters.*—Dexter; A soldier under arms, his dexter hand supporting a lance—therefrom flying the Standard of the United States: Sinister; A sailor equipped for general quarters, his sinister hand sup-

porting a pike—thereon hoisted the National Flag: all proper. The equipage of each as prescribed by the Regulations of 1861 and 1865, for the government respectively of the Army and Navy.

*Motto.*—LEX REGIT, ARMA TUENTUR.—in letters argent, charged upon a scroll purpure.

(*v.* Frontispiece.)

## ARTICLE XXVI.

### SEAL OF THE ORDER.

The Seal of the Order shall be one-and-three-tenths ($\frac{13}{10}$) inches in diameter, and shall consist of the CREST, as hereinbefore blazoned, the letters—MDCCCLXV. in base; the whole encircled by a band, one-eighth ($\frac{1}{8}$) of an inch wide, thereon the legend—SEAL OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES. (*v.* Page 4.)

## ARTICLE XXVII.

### INSIGNIA OF THE ORDER.

SECTION 1.—The Insignia of the Order shall consist of the BADGE pendant, by a link and a ring of gold, from the RIBBON.

SEC. 2.—The BADGE of the Order shall be as follows:—

Obverse.—A Cross of eight (8) points gold; cantoned with rays of gold,—forming a Star: its long diameter one-and-three-tenths ($\frac{13}{10}$) inches, its short diameter eight-tenths ($\frac{8}{10}$) of an inch. The Cross enamelled azure; charged with a smaller cross of like proportions, enamelled white and edged with gold. In the centre thereof, within a circle four-tenths ($\frac{4}{10}$) of an inch in diameter, enamelled gules, the National Eagle displayed gold. On the circle, gold, one-tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) of an inch wide, the motto—LEX REGIT, ARMA TUENTUR.—in relievo. (v. Page 51.

Reverse.—The Star as above described. In the centre thereof, within a circle four-tenths ($\frac{4}{10}$) of an inch in diameter, enamelled gules, two (2) sabres in saltire, their points in base; surmounted by a fasces, pale-wise, ensigned with a Cap of Liberty: within an arch of thirteen (13) stars, in base a wreath of laurel:—all of gold. On the circle, gold, one-tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) of an inch wide, the legend—M. O., LOYAL LEGION, U. S.—MDCCCLXV.— in relievo. (*v.* Page 52.)

SEC. 3.—The reverse of the *link* of each Badge shall bear an engraved number, corresponding with that of the registered number of the Companion to whom issued. (*v.* Page 52.)

SEC. 4.—The RIBBON of the Order shall be of watered silk, one-and-one-half ($\frac{15}{10}$) inches wide.

For Companions of the First (1st) Class,—a *red* ribbon eight-tenths ($\frac{8}{10}$) of an inch wide, bordered with white and edged with blue each three-and-one-half-tenths ($\frac{7}{20}$) of an inch wide. (*v.* Page 51.)

For Companions of the Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) Classes—a *blue* ribbon eight-tenths ($\frac{8}{10}$) of an inch wide, bordered with white and edged with red each three-and-one-half-tenths ($\frac{7}{20}$) of an inch wide. (*v.* Page 52.)

## ARTICLE XXVIII.

### UNIFORM OF THE ORDER.

SECTION 1.—On occasions of ceremony, the Companions of the Order may wear the uniform of their respective arm and grade whilst in the service: —subject to such regulations as may hereafter be enjoined.

The INSIGNIA of the Order shall be worn conspicuously, and only on the centre of the left breast.

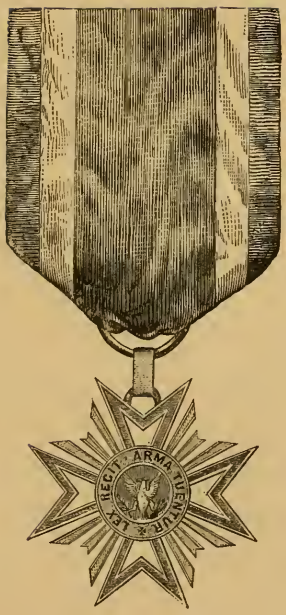
SEC. 2.—When not on duty as Companions of the Order, the members will wear on the left lapel of the coat, one (1) inch from the top of the lapel, parallel thereto, and one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of an inch from

the front edge of the same, the prescribed Ribbon of their respective Classes.

## ARTICLE XXIX.

### AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, addition, or amendment, shall be made to this Constitution, unless agreed to by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the whole number of Commanderies represented in the Congress of the Order.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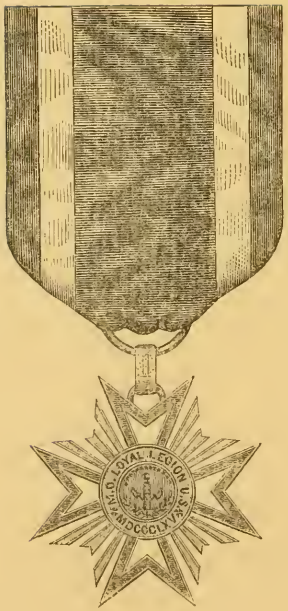
LOYAL LEGION U.S.A.
MDCCCLVI

# BY-LAWS.

## ARTICLE I.

### INSTALLATION OF MEMBERS.

The Companion-elect being formally presented at a stated meeting of a Commandery, shall, then and there, make a declaration, upon honor, that he will maintain the Constitution of the Order, and conform to all its By-Laws, Rules and Regulations; and will use his best endeavors to promote its objects and advance its interests.

## ARTICLE II.

### INVESTITURE OF OFFICERS.

A Companion elected to any office in the Order, before being invested with the authority of the same, shall make a formal declaration, upon honor, that he will—well and faithfully—perform the duties of the office on which he is about to enter; and comply with all the established laws and usages of the Order.

## ARTICLE III.

### DUTIES OF THE ORDERLY.

The *Orderly* shall keep the Commandery Head-Quarters in good order; and perform such other duties pertaining to the character of his office, as may be required of him by the Council.

As a compensation for his services, he shall receive a fixed annual salary, payable quarterly.

## ARTICLE IV.

### FINES.

SECTION 1.—The fundamental principles of this Order being recognized as its only test of loyal citizenship, the discussion, or introduction, of sectarian or partisan topics within the precincts of a Commandery is prohibited:—this, under the penalty of such fine, exceeding fifty dollars ($50.00), as may be imposed by order of the Council.

SEC. 2.—All other violations or neglects of duty, may be fined at the option of the Commandery.

## ARTICLE V.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

At stated meetings, the business shall be conducted in the following order:—

1. At the time appointed, the Commander shall take the chair and call the Commandery to order.

2. The Recorder shall call the Roll of Members.

3. The Chaplain shall read the opening Prayer.

4. The Minutes of the last stated, and all subsequent meetings, shall be read and disposed of.

5. Companions-elect shall be installed.

6. The stated business, if any, of the meeting shall be considered.

7. Unfinished business shall be taken up.

8. Reports of Officers and Committees shall be heard.

9. Written communications shall be presented.

10. Candidates for membership shall be balloted for.

11. Applications for membership shall be received.

12. Admission fees and semi-annual dues of Companions, shall be called for payment.

13. New business may be introduced.

14. The Recorder shall register the names of the Companions present.

15. The Chaplain shall read the closing Prayer.
16. Adjournment.

## ARTICLE VI.

### GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION 1.—The general rules of the United States House of Representatives, so far as applicable, shall govern the transactions of the Commanderies.

SEC. 2.—All official orders, communications, records, and proceedings of whatever character, shall conform as nearly as possible to the general regulations, usages and customs of the military service of the United States.

## ARTICLE VII.

### ACTING GRAND COMMANDERIES OF THE SEVERAL STATES.

The Senior Commandery of each State shall act as its Grand Commandery, until that body can be

organized in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### THE ACTING GRAND COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA:—AND ACTING COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OF THE ORDER.

Until the 4th day of July, 1866, Commandery No. 1 of the State of Pennsylvania—shall act as the Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania:—and until July 4th, 1867, as Commandery-in-Chief of the Order.

But if, on the dates above specified, the Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania, or the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order, be not organized,—the said Commandery No. 1 of the State of Pennsylvania, shall continue to exercise said functions until the organization of the Grand Com-

mandery, or of the Commandery-in-Chief, shall have been effected.

## ARTICLE IX.

### AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, addition, or amendment, shall be made to these By-Laws, unless agreed to by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the whole number of Commanderies represented in the Congress of the Order.

# INDEX.

PAGE.

Extract from Minutes:—H. Q., C. No. 1, Penna.,
M. O., L. L., U. S., Philada., Jan. 17, 1866. 3

CONSTITUTION.

Preamble, . . . . . 5
ARTICLE I.—Title, . . . . . 6
" II.—Principles, . . . . . 6
" III.—Objects, . . . . . 7
" IV.—Organization, . . . . . 8
" V.—Members, . . . . . 9
" VI.—Election of Members, . . . . . 10
" VII.—Membership, . . . . . 13
" VIII.—Impeachment of Members. . . . . 15

60

PAGE.

ARTICLE IX.—Honorary Members, . . . . . 16
" X.—Diploma of Membership, . . . . 17
" XI.—Death of Members, . . . . . 19
" XII.—Officers, . . . . . 19
" XIII.—Duties of Officers, . . . . . 21
" XIV.—Removal of Officers, . . . . . 28
" XV.—Meetings, . . . . . 28
" XVI.—Secrecy, . . . . . 29
" XVII.—Funds, . . . . . 30
" XVIII.—Arrearages, . . . . . 30
" XIX.—Relief, . . . . . 32
" XX.—Relief Committee, . . . . . 32
" XXI.—District Commanderies, . . . . 33
" XXII.—Grand Commanderies, . . . . . 37
" XXIII.—Commandery-in-Chief, . . . . 41
" XXIV.—Congress of the Order, . . . . . 43
" XXV.—Coat of Arms of the Order, . . . . 45
" XXVI.—Seal of the Order, . . . . . 46
" XXVII.—Insignia of the Order, . . . . . 47
" XXVIII.—Uniform of the Order, . . . . . 49
" XXIX.—Amendments, . . . . . 50

## BY-LAWS.

PAGE.

ARTICLE I.—Installation of Members, . . . . 53
" II.—Investiture of Officers, . . . . . 54
" III.—Duties of the Orderly, . . . . . 54
" IV.—Fines, . . . . . 55
" V.—Order of Business, . . . . . 55
" VI.—General Rules and Regulations, . . 57
" VII.—Acting Grand Commanderies of the several States, . . . . . 57
" VIII.—The Acting Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania:—and Acting Commandery-in-Chief of the Order, . 58
" IX.—Amendments, . . . . . 59

# ILLUSTRATIONS.

Coat of Arms of the Order, . . . . Frontispiece
Seal of the Order, . . . . . Page 4
Obverse of Badge of the Order, and Ribbon for Companions of the First (1st) Class, . . " 51
Reverse of Badge of the Order, and Ribbon for Companions of the Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) Classes, . . . . . " 52

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

# MILITARY ORDER

OF THE

# LOYAL LEGION

OF THE

# UNITED STATES.

PHILADELPHIA:

1867.

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